

## House Republican Press Release

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### **Rep. Ferrari: Open Space Grants Approved for New Hartford**



The approval of two \$450,000 state open space grants will mean two large tracts of forest land in New Hartford will be preserved in their natural state in perpetuity and help preserve the town's rural character and charm, state Representative Richard F. Ferrari, R-62<sup>nd</sup> District, said today.

"The DEP's approval of both grants is welcome news for the people of New Hartford," Representative Ferrari said. "The acquisition of these parcels will go a long way toward preserving valuable open space in town. New Hartford is growing rapidly and it is more important than ever to protect and preserve the town's forests, wetlands and streams in their natural state for the enjoyment of future generations."

"More and more of Connecticut's woodlands, farms and open space areas are being lost every year. New Hartford and other communities in the northwest part of our state is no exception. They are increasingly being targeted for new residential and commercial development. These open space grants could not have come at a better time. They will ensure the preservation of the town's rural character and charm for years to come," Representative Ferrari said.

One of the grants would help pay for the acquisition of the 118-acre Goula open space area. It would preserve a large unbroken forest, grassland and wetland habitat and create a potential link to a proposed greenway. The property is comprised of 102 acres of young (40 to 50 years) forest, 21 acres of meadow land, and is home to a significant prehistoric archaeological soapstone site, Representative Ferrari said.

The other grant will enable the Trust for Public Land to preserve the 172-acre Jones Mountain open space area, half of which drains into the Farmington River and abuts a 343-acre undeveloped property managed by Kingdom Game Club. The property consists primarily of an unbroken closed canopy forest, Representative Ferrari said.